

cause an order to be drawn by its Secretary on the Treasurer of this Conference.

Respectfully,
JOHN KEIM
H. S. SPRINKLE
DAVID AUGUSTINE.
Committee.

The report was received and adopted.

The report of Ashland University, and all matter pertaining to the institution, was then called for. The report was read by John Keim, received and adopted.

REPORT OF ASHLAND UNIVERSITY FINANCE COMMITTEE.

In behalf of our committee, I want to say that we were not idle in the work assigned to us one year ago by this conference. We pushed the canvass on the plan of collecting \$1.50 from each member in the entire brotherhood to our utmost abilities. We appointed solicitors in one hundred and twenty congregations. We urged upon them the necessity of this work again and again. Those canvassed who were enthused by the conference only, made an effort to work, and the balance declined. About twenty congregations responded to our demands, and one hundred declined. We found, in the first place, only about one half the membership in the brotherhood as was represented to us; and we found the prejudice and lack of confidence in the old management of the school so great that it was impossible for us to overcome the same through corresponding only. We found that we had to send men out to canvass on some other plan. We solicited some of our best men in each state, and of all the number, we failed to induce a single one to go out and canvass, and why? Because we had no means whatever with which to pay them. We could only promise them conditional pay; only in the event we raised \$15,000. At the Ohio State Conference, we stated the necessity of an expense fund, that we may pay men, at least some of their expenses while on the road. Brother I. D. Bowman at the same time suggested that a canvass be started at once to secure one hundred dollar pledges in notes payable as follows:

Ten dollars when \$10,000 is pledged, and the residue in ten dollar annual payments, with six per cent. interest.

This plan was adopted by the Ohio State Conference, and put into the hands of this committee to execute, and I am gratified in saying to you that we have succeeded quite well. We have, in so short a time, and during the busy month of harvest secured pledges aggregating about \$6,500, up to this time, hoping that at this conference the balance may be secured to make up the \$10,000.

JOHN KEIM, Sec.

I. D. Bowman read a number of resolutions, and moved their adoption. Following are the resolutions as amended:

1. That we approve and adopt the plan of the Ohio Conference to liquidate the indebtedness of Ashland University.
2. That we continue the present committee to execute said plan.
3. That said committee and the board of trustees manage the opening and conducting of said university in the best possible manner, *within its own means*, and without incurring any farther indebtedness.
4. That the Theological department be opened as soon as the debt is provided for.
5. That all funds donated shall be paid into the hands of the Financial Committee and shall be disbursed by said committee in equal ratio to all legal creditors since 1888.

The following resolution by John Keim was adopted:

Resolved: That the Ashland University Finance Committee is not implicated in the management of the school, but only in the canvassing and disbursing of the funds, and apply the same on the present indebtedness of the university, and that only.

On motion of John Keim the conference proceeded to raise the money provided for in a former resolution. J. D. McFaden was called to conduct the raising of said money.

Adjourned to meet at 1:30

FIFTH SESSION. WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

Session opened with prayer by E. E. Haskins. College matters were resumed. The remainder of the thirty-five \$100. pledges were raised; the amount required to make the necessary \$10,000.

By resolution the Brethren Book and Tract Committee was instructed to give \$75.00 to Ashland College.

The report of the Brethren Publishing House was taken up and continued.

The auditing committee read the following report:

REPORT OF AUDITING COMMITTEE.

EXPENDITURES.

Merchandise	\$21.47
Labor	1617.99
Press work	228.25
Office fixtures	44.24
Paper	411.31
Type	71.20
Fuel, rent, stationery, postage, etc.	463.01
Postage on EVANGELIST	67.94
EVANGELISTS to the poor	14.47
On account	621.35
In bank	362.74
Cash	49.05
Total	\$3973.02
RECEIPTS.	
Annual	\$63.96
Quarterly	.75
EVANGELIST	2735.77
Advertising	138.77
Job work	137.73
Orphans' Home Fund	.75
Publishing Committee	600.00
Ministerial Association	75.45
Ashland University	6.50
J. W. Beer	1.95
L. M. Beachly	.07
Book and Tract Committee	7.30
D. E. Crofford	3.23
Edwin Alden & Co.	13.96
W. S. McClain	.54
W. H. Sanger	1.00
C. F. Yoder	.49
Profit and Loss	167.84
Laura Grossnickle's Sermons	5.75
A. Haegart	11.21
Total	\$3973.02

The undersigned committee beg leave to report that we find a total balance in favor of the Brethren Publishing Company of \$1033.14 to August 1st, of which \$411.79, is cash in hand, and \$621.35 is unpaid subscriptions. Of this, about fifty per cent. is regarded as collectable, leaving a net balance of \$722.46. Out of this sum must be paid a debt of \$113.49, and also an estimated expense of \$206.00 per month for publishing the EVANGELIST, or \$1030.00 for the five months from August 1st, 1893, to January 1st, 1894. This will involve a loss of about \$421.00 in fourteen months publication of the paper, without taking into account the interest on the investment. On the debt of \$100.00, and wear and tear on the type. As a credit on this account, I should mention \$136.00 betterment of plant. Should all the outstanding accounts of the Publishing Company be collected the above shortage would be reduced to about \$100.00, with an augmentation of the plant of \$136.00 as above. But as it is not probable that more than fifty per cent. of said account can be collected, it will be necessary for the conference to provide against a possible deficiency of about \$400.00. We find that the books are properly balanced.

B. C. MOOMAW.
C. E. DEFFENBAUGH.
A. PEARSON.

The report was accepted as read. The following proposition to lease the BRETHREN EVANGELIST was presented by A. D. Gnagey and B. C. Moomaw.

PROPOSAL TO LEASE THE BRETHREN EVANGELIST.

The undersigned hereby propose to lease the BRETHREN EVANGELIST for one year, or until the next general conference, with the privilege of five years, on the following terms and conditions; to-wit:

- 1st. We will regularly issue each week for fifty weeks in the year, a paper containing twelve pages 11x15 inches, cut and trimmed, as per sample herewith submitted, of which not less than ten pages shall be filled with new reading matter each week.
- 2d. The ten pages shall contain about the same amount of reading matter as the present EVANGELIST, not including the space occupied by ads.
- 3d. It will be printed on good paper, pure white M. F. Anchor Mills Book, or other brands of equal quality, as per sample submitted to committee.
- 4th. The paper will be in book form, open, pasted or stitched, and paged consecutively.
- 5th. We will pay to the National conference of the Brethren church or to such person or persons as it may designate, a cash royalty of \$200.00 for the first 2,000 pay subscribers, 15 cents per subscriber for the next 500, and 20 cents per subscriber for the next 500, and 25 cents per subscriber for all over 3000.
- 6th. We guarantee that the paper shall be conducted strictly in harmony with the doctrinal principles and ecclesiastical polity of the Brethren church as set forth by the National Conference, and embodied in such special instructions or rules

as the said Conference may see fit to adopt. We here recommend that this conference make rules governing the publishing of the paper.

7th. We agree that a supervising committee shall be appointed by the National Conference which shall exercise a censorship over all matter appearing in the columns of the paper, said committee to be guided by such rules as the Conference may adopt.

Should this proposition be accepted by the National Conference we will agree to begin the issue of the paper as proposed on Nov. 1st, 1893, and fulfill all the unexpired subscriptions and advertising contracts of the Brethren Publishing Company at proportional rates for the same.

The property to be transferred to the lessees under this proposition shall be the present subscription list of the BRETHREN EVANGELIST, inviolate, and all books, papers, files, etc., belonging to the said Brethren Publishing Company all of which to be delivered to the undersigned [on board cars in Waterloo, Iowa, U. S. A.]

A. D. GNAGEY.
B. C. MOOMAW.

On motion of I. D. Bowman the proposition was referred to a committee. The chairman appointed J. E. Roop, W. C. Perry, I. D. Bowman, J. O. Lally and Martin Shively.

SIXTH SESSION, WEDNESDAY EVENING, AUG. 23.

Session opened with devotional services. The report of the Society of Christian Endeavor was read by Mrs. S. J. Harrison. The report was accepted. Report was published in No. 35.

A collection was taken for the sisters amounting to \$14.25.

(To be continued.)

Sisters' Department.

REPORT OF S. S. C. E. OF JOHNSTOWN, PA., BRETHREN CHURCH.

This society was organized March 13, 18 with twenty-six members. Its membership numbers forty-three at present date. Since its organization we have held twenty one meetings, or one meeting each week, excepting one week. These meetings are held on Friday evenings by the young members of the church and other young people of this city. Our attendance of members had averaged about twenty-five, and the general attendance at our meetings frequently ranges from seventy-five to over one hundred people.

We believe good work has been accomplished through the society, among the young people of our city who have taken advantage of its meetings, and its opportunities for literary and religious work; and we have much reason to feel encouraged; believing that its influence for good will be extended and consequently more marked in the future.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Membership dues collected	\$10.75
Free will offerings	11.35
Proceeds from lawn fete	21.26
Total	\$43.36

EXPENDITURES.

Books and table	\$14.80
One fourth receipts due national society	10.84
Total expenditures	\$25.64
Balance in treasury	\$17.72

MINNIE CROFFORD, Pres.
SARAH J. COBAUGH, Sec.

Aug. 19, 1893.

Essays.

EXCUSES.

SELECTED BY EMILY R. STIFLER RITTER.

READER, there are many excuses made about religion. But there are no excuses so poor and feeble as those which people make for not praying. Beware of these excuses.

Do not say you *do not know how to pray*. Prayer is the simplest act in all religion. It is simply speaking to God. It needs neither learning, nor wisdom, nor book knowledge to begin it. It needs nothing but *heart and will*. The weakest infant can cry when it is hungry. The poorest beggar can hold out his hands for alms, and does not wait to find fine words. The most ignorant man will find something to say to God, if he has only a *will*.

Do not say you have no convenient place to pray in. Any man can find a place private enough, if he is disposed. Our Lord prayed on a mountain, Peter on the housetop, Isaac in the field, Nathaniel under the fig-tree, Jonah in the whale's

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